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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 July 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.49/Rev.1)*]

70/293. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/66 B of 5 December 1980, in which it proclaimed the 1980s as the first Industrial Development Decade for Africa, its resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989, in which it proclaimed the period 1991–2000 as the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, its resolution 47/177 of 22 December 1992, in which it adjusted the period for the programme for the Second Decade to cover the years 1993–2002, and its resolution 57/297 of 20 December 2002 on the Second Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which reflects the importance of industrial development to the 2030 Agenda, including Sustainable Development Goal 9, Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, and its interrelated targets,

Recalling further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and in which the General Assembly stressed the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries, in particular African countries, as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification and value addition,

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted on 13 May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[1] which emphasizes the importance of building productive capacity as a critical enabler for the development and graduation of the least developed countries, and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted on 5 November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked

[1] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

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Developing Countries,[2] and considering the fact that 33 out of the 48 least developed countries and 16 out of the 32 landlocked developing countries are African countries,

Recognizing the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[3] the Group of Eight Africa Action Plan of June 2002, in which the Group of Eight welcomed the adoption of the New Partnership, and regional initiatives, such as the African Union Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa, the African Productive Capacity Initiative, the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, the African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators Initiative, the Africa Mining Vision and the African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative, which underscore the importance of industrialization for sustainable structural economic transformation,

Taking note of the outcome of the eighteenth Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held in Durban, South Africa, from 24 to 28 October 2008, at which the implementation strategy for the African Union Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa was endorsed, and taking note also of the outcome of the twentieth Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held in Nairobi from 10 to 14 June 2013, in which a call was made for the need for the accelerated industrialization of African countries in the context of the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note also of the declaration on the launch of the negotiations for the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 14 and 15 June 2015, in which the Heads of State and Government of the African Union reaffirmed their commitment to increase intra-African trade through the establishment of a continental free trade area that would foster economic growth and equitable development and would support integration through trade liberalization, industrialization and infrastructure development towards the full implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community of 3 June 1991 (the Abuja Treaty),[4]

Taking note further of the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifteenth session, held in Lima from 2 to 6 December 2013,[5] in which the General Conference requested the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to assist Member States in achieving enhanced levels of inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

Taking note of the outcome of the joint high-level event organized by the African Union Commission, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa on the theme "Operationalization of the 2030 Agenda for Africa's industrialization", held on the margins of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, on 26 September 2015, at which organizers called upon the Assembly to adopt a resolution for a third industrial development decade for Africa in 2016,

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[2] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[3] A/57/304, annex.

[4] A/46/651, annex.

[5] See GC.15/INF/4, resolution GC.15/Res.1.

Noting that, despite the above-mentioned resolutions, decisions, declarations and initiatives, Africa remains the poorest and the most vulnerable region in the world, and noting also the need for the continent to take urgent action to advance sustainable industrialization as a key element of furthering economic diversification and value addition, creating jobs and thus reducing poverty and contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming the importance of industrialization in supporting Africa's own efforts towards sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and accelerated development,

Underlining the need for the sustainable industrialization of Africa and the objective of introducing the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

1. *Proclaims* the period 2016–2025 as the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

2. *Calls upon* the African Union Commission, the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[3] the Economic Commission for Africa and, specifically, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to develop, operationalize and lead the implementation of the programme for the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in accordance with its mandate and through voluntary contributions, taking into account the Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its tenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 31 January to 2 February 2008, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[6] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[7] and the African Union Agenda 2063 and its 10-year implementation plan, in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, including regional economic communities and national entities;

3. *Encourages* the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to mobilize adequate resources for the implementation of the Third Decade;

4. *Reiterates* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment;

5. *Invites*, as appropriate, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as the United Nations specialized agency for industrialization, in close collaboration with the African Union, to scale up its technical assistance to African countries in accordance with its mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development for the successful implementation of the Third Decade;

6. *Also invites* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to foster partnerships, as appropriate, with other relevant entities in the United Nations development system, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the

[6] Resolution 70/1.

[7] Resolution 69/313, annex.

World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, and to promote the necessary linkages to develop joint initiatives in favour of industrialization, including technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, access to information and communications technology, productive diversification, agribusiness value chain development, trade, capacity-building, renewable energy and energy efficiency, industrial policy, special economic zones and industrial parks, action on climate change and human capital development, while also strengthening public-private partnerships with a range of stakeholders, including those in the public and the private sectors, civil society organizations and academia;

7. *Calls for* enhanced international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of Africa's industrialization, including through the implementation of the Third Decade, and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but is rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

8. *Invites* the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral partners, the United Nations system, global and regional financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the New Development Bank and the African Development Bank, in accordance with their respective mandates, to ensure full support for the implementation of programmes for the Third Decade at the national and subregional levels;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support, within existing resources, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its assistance to the African Union, African countries and regional organizations in the implementation of programmes for the Third Decade;

10. *Requests* the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to submit to the General Assembly, through the Secretary-General, a periodic progress report on the implementation of the Third Decade.

112th plenary meeting
25 July 2016